

Application Number: 09/925,436

Amdt. Dated 25 June 2003

Reply to Office action of 02/26/2003

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

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Claim 1. (canceled)

Claim 2. (currently amended): The armored system arrangement of claim + 17 whereby the said load transferring mechanism is a ledge on said back front or side ballistic plate, said ledge interfacing with said front ballistic plate to support the weight of said front ballistic plate.

Claim 3. (currently amended): The armored system arrangement of claim + 17, wherein said back ballistic plate and said front ballistic plate each have an upper section; said load horizontal load transferring mechanism attached between said upper sections of said back ballistic plate and said front ballistic plate.

Claim 4. (currently amended): The armored system arrangement of claim + 17 whereby the said back plate incorporates attachment mechanisms to attach to the rear of said vehicle the occupant's seat frame.

Claim 5. (currently amended): The armored system arrangement of claim + 17 further including vehicle attachment points, said back ballistic plate or front ballistic plate rests on or is connected to said vehicle attachment points for transferring the system load to the vehicle.

Claim 6. (currently amended): The armored system arrangement of claim + 17 whereby said back or side ballistic plate is incorporated into the vehicle seat or serves as a component of the vehicle seat.

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Claim 7. (currently amended): An armored ~~system vest arrangement~~ comprising at least one front ballistic plate, and at least one back ballistic plates and optional side ballistic plates being made of a material to stop high velocity projectiles from striking ~~of an armored vest worn by~~ an occupant in a vehicle, said back ballistic plate having an extended section resting on the vehicle seat, and the front ballistic plate having an extended section resting on said vehicle seat.

Claim 8. (currently amended): The arrangement of claim 7 said extended section of said front ballistic plate is positioned between the vehicle occupant's legs.

Claim 9. (currently amended): The arrangement of claim 7 where the extended section of either or both of said back and front ballistic plate plates is positioned to the outsides of the vehicle occupant's legs.

Claim 10. (currently amended): The arrangement of claim 7 including attachment mechanisms, said back ballistic plate incorporating said attachment mechanisms to attach to the rear of the occupant's seat.

Claim 11. (currently amended): The arrangement of claim 7 further including vehicle attachment points and wherein said back ballistic plate or front ballistic plate rests on or is connected to said other vehicle attachment points for transferring the system load to the vehicle.

Claim 12. (currently amended): The arrangement of claim 7 whereby the back ballistic plate is incorporated into the vehicle seat or serves as a component of the vehicle seat.

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Claim 13. (currently amended): The arrangement of claim 11 in which said vehicle attachment point is connected between said back ballistic plate and the floor of a vehicle.

Claim 14. (currently amended): The arrangement of claim 11 in which said vehicle attachment point is connected between said back ballistic plate or front ballistic plate by a hanger straps.

Claim 15. (currently amended): The arrangement of claim 11 in which said vehicle attachment point is connected upwardly from a vehicle hatch.

Claim 16. (currently amended): The arrangement of claim 11 in which said vehicle attachment points are above the vehicle occupant.

Claim 17. (new): An armored system for use in a vehicle comprising at least one front ballistic plate, at least one back ballistic plate and optional side ballistic plates, each of the ballistic plates being made of a material to stop high velocity projectiles from striking an occupant in the vehicle, wherein the ballistic plates are sized and configured to transfer weight of the at least one front ballistic plate and of the optional side ballistic plates through at least one ballistic backplate to structure of the vehicle removing said armored system weight from said occupant to said vehicle.

Claim 18. (new): The arrangement of claim 17 in which said back ballistic plate rests on vehicle seat.

Claim 19. (new): The arrangement of claim 17 where said ballistic plates comprising armor materials selected from the group consisting of ceramics, metals, and glass reinforced plastics, designed to stop said bullets and military ballistic threats and said ballistic plates configured as front, side, or rear ballistic plates.

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Claim 20. (new): The arrangement of claim 17 where ballistic plates are inserted in a vest configured to hold said ballistic plates in position to protect said vehicle occupant from said bullet and military ballistic threats and said vest is adapted to be worn by said vehicle occupant comprising materiel selected from the group comprising of fabrics straps, belts, fasteners and cushions.

Claim 21. (new): The arrangement of claim 17 where a vertical load transfer mechanism comprises extending a portion of said ballistic plates such that at least half of said armored system's weight is vertically transferred to rest on said seat in said vehicle.

Claim 22. (new): The arrangement of claim 17 where a horizontal load transfer mechanism is provided to transfer weight of said armor system to at least one of the adjacent plate and the back ballistic plate, the horizontal load transfer mechanism being selected from the group consisting of plate shapes, support arms, straps, and attachment means between said plates.

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